Grandparents known for their generosity

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She was at first fearful, but her fears changed to joy when the professor told her stories about her grandmother and grandfather. They were known as generous people, and in one instance gave their last cow to a pioneer couple so they could feed their sick baby milk.

Gracia had entered the university with hopes of becoming a teacher, but an advisor told her she should take business training. She completed courses in business English, banking and French and returned home to become the first woman teller in the state, working for Clark County Bank from between 1935 and 1950.

Besides being the first woman teller, she is a charter member of many organizations including the Camas-Washougal Historical Society, Daughters of Pioneers, Business and Professional Women. She is also a past matron of Eastern Star, Vashti Chapter.

She and her husband Reggie operated the Jones Bakery in Washougal for a time, then turned it into a confectionary. The business was housed in what is now Betty's for Beauty on B Street, but back then it sat between the Washougal Liberty Theater and the Red and White grocery store.

In 1950, she and her husband Reggie left Washougal to start a cattle ranch on the Yakima Indian Reservation, where many of the Indians from the Camas-Washougal area had gone to live.

For 12 years, Gracia worked at the Yakima Indian Agency in Toppenish.

They returned to the community in 1968.